

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A composition for treating hypertriglyceridemia, which comprises a mixture of fatty acyl compounds, said fatty acyl compound mixture having a polyunsaturated fatty acid content of at least 65 weight percent and including linoleic acid in an amount from about 10 to about 35 weight percent, γ -linolenic acid, in an amount from about 5 to about 50 weight percent, α -linolenic acid, in an amount from about 15 to about 60 weight percent and stearidonic acid, in an amount from about 15 to about 55 weight percent, said amounts being based on the total weight of the polyunsaturated fatty acid content of said mixture, and at least one therapeutic agent selected from the group of antilipemic agents, antioxidants and antidiabetic agents.
2. A composition according to claim 1, wherein said fatty acyl compound mixture further includes at least one saturated fatty acid and at least one mono-unsaturated fatty acid.
3. A composition according to claim 2, wherein said at least one saturated fatty acid and said at least one mono-unsaturated fatty acid predominantly comprise C_{16} and C_{18} fatty acids.
4. A composition according to claim 3, wherein said fatty acyl compound mixture is Echium oil.
5. A composition according to claim 1, wherein said antilipemic agent is selected from the group of niacin, fluvastatin sodium, cerivastatin sodium, simvastatin, atorvastatin calcium, lovastatin,

clofibrate, ciprofibrate, gemfibrozil, benzafibrate, fenofibrate and pravastatin sodium.

5 6. A composition according to claim 1, wherein said anti-oxidant is selected from the group of tocopherol, ascorbic acid, tocotrienol, selenium, curcumin β carotene and probucol.

10 7. A composition according to claim 1, wherein said anti-diabetic agent is selected from the group of troglitazone, pioglitazone, rosiglitazone, pioglitazone.

15 8. A method of treating hypertriglyceridemia in a patient in need of such treatment, said method comprising administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising a mixture of fatty acyl compounds, said fatty acyl compound mixture having a polyunsaturated fatty acid content of at least 65 weight percent and including linoleic acid in an amount from about 10 to about 35 weight percent, γ -linolenic acid in an amount from about 5 to about 50 weight percent, α -linolenic acid in an amount from about 15 to about 60 weight percent and stearidonic acid in an amount from about 15 to about 55 weight percent, said amounts being based on the total weight of the polyunsaturated fatty acid content of in said mixture, optionally, in combination with at least one therapeutic agent selected from the group of antilipemic agents, antioxidants and antidiabetic agents.

25 9. A method according to claim 8, wherein said composition is administered in an amount which delivers from about .04 to about .35 grams of said fatty acyl compound mixture per kilogram of patient body weight per day.

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10. A method according to claim 8, wherein said composition is administered orally.

5 11. A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein said composition is administered as a single dose.

12. A method according to claim 8, wherein said single dose comprises Echium oil.

10 13. A method according to claim 12, wherein said composition is administered in an amount which delivers about 15 grams of Echium oil per day.

15 14. A composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein the polyunsaturated fraction of said Echium oil is concentrated.